CLASSIFICATION 3.10**\**.7 COUNTRY T. T. B. HOLSHO BILL 50X1-HUM Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/10/18 : CIA-RDP82-00457R001600320005-8 INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR (Baltic) CONFIDENTIAL DATE DISTR. 21 June 1948

SUBJECT

1. Living Conditions and Morale in the Baltic Area

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE **ACQUIRED**  2. Recertion of Foreign Broadcasts

NO. OF ENCLS.

50X1-HUM

DATE OF INFO

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS REFORMATION AFFECTING THE BATTOMAL DEFENSE
OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT SO
U. S. C. 31 AMD 32. AS ABERIDED. ITS TRANSSISSION OR THE REVELATION
OF 175 COSTEMTS IN ANY MARKER TO AM UMAUTHORIZED PRESON HIS PROMIDITED ST LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM 15 PROHIBITED. HOWEVER INFORMATION CONTAINED IN BODY OF THE FORM MAY BE UTILIZED
AS DEEMED MECESSARY BY THE RECEIVING AGENCY.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS 50X1-HUM

General Conditions in Leningrad Area (April 1948) 1.

> The food situation has deteriorated badly in Leningred over the last two months. Thite bread, white flour, sugar, and butter are practically unobtainable and neat is very scarce. There are very few potatoes and Russians make trips to the Baltic States for the purpose of buying potatoes. In Leningrad, lines are formed every day outside the food shops, often beginning at four o'clock in the rorning. Source's wife stood in line every day for two weeks in Leningrad without being able to obtain either butter or cooking fat. There is considerable resentment by the public, which expected things to be much easier after the abolition of bread rationing. The man in the street also hoped for better conditions after the devaluation of the ruble, esvecially in view of the Government's assurances that this measure would level prices. Public opinion is also extremely indignant over the granting of special awards, Stalin Laureates, to scientists, inventors, and artists. These awards are often as high as 100,000 rubles. The rublic is at a loss to understand why awards as high at 100,000 rubles should be granted to even star ballerinas while skilled workers often have to work 12 hours a day to earn a bare living.

Morale in Leningrad (January 1948)

The norale of troops in Leningrad is poor. Public discontent has been greatly increased by the devaluation of the ruble; many rersons have lost all their small savings. The rublic is scared of another war, especially an atomic war. All so ts of numers are heard every day, and there are distinct signs of panic among intellectuals. There are however, no indications that the general public is being psychologically prepared for a other war as was the case before the last war. Even in the Arry, despite current intensive training, there are no real indications of a psychological preparation for war.

- 3. Morale and Conditions in Latvia and Lithuania (January-April 1948)
  - The situation in the Baltic States is reminiscent of complete military occupation. The population is in roverty, degrived of liberty, and hates the Soviets, particularly the Soviet Army. The Latvian

			CLAS	SSIFICATION	SECRET CONTROL U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY								
STATE	X	NAVY AIR	X	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION			**************************************	TT				
	X					TT		····	1				- -
					Document No. NO CHANCE in Cla								o commu
						WHDE	AITIA	no chanc. D DECLAS	e in c. Scifted	183 <b>5.</b> )			
						3 A. 7 A	MILLER	lass. C	HARCED	TO:	$T \cong$	S	

SECRET

DDA Liso, 4 Apr 77 Auth: DDA Fold. 77/1763 

50X1-HUM

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/10/18 : CIA-RDP82-00457R001600320005-8 JM

SECRET CONTROL U.S OF TILE ONLY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 2 -

## CONFIDENTIAL

police is composed of Latvians, but the Russian political police is in command behind the scenes. Throughout the state organizations, Latvians are employed in administrative posts, but the executive appointments are filled by Russians. The food situation is better in Latvia than in Russia and Russians come in a constant stream to the Baltic State for the purpose of purchasing foodstuffs. This is greatly resented by the local population.

- b. The Letts make no secret of their hatred for the Russians. Lett traders do their best to avoid selling to Russians and make a rount of not talking in Russian. Almost every week Russian soldiers are murdered in the outskirts of Lepaya (Libau). The MGB replies by despatching lett families to Russia, crincipally beyond the Urals. There are several small and badly organized partisan groups in Lithuania and in the Dvinek area of Latvia.
- 4. Reception of Foreign Radio Programs (January 1948)

In the Leningrad area, surprise is expressed that the BBC transmissions are of such low power, and that only official communiques which can be read in the Russian papers are broadcast. The BBC has been jarmed on only one occasion, when announcing a minor item of news about the loss of a Russian ship in the Pacific. On the other hand, American broadcasts are consistently jammed.

U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL